

I oppose loosening the rules designed to promote and protect diversity of media ownership. These rules were adopted to ensure that the public would receive a diverse range of viewpoints from the media, and not simply the opinions of a handful of media conglomerates.

Dear sirs,

I am concerned about the current review of the Federal Communications Commission's rules regarding ownership. Simply having more channels does not equate with more diverse opinions being expressed. Viewpoint diversity should not be simply evaluated in a context of commercial competition.

The United States is a diverse nation with its citizens comprising many ethnic, religious, and political ideologies. Commercial competition can not allow the majority of these opinions to be expressed, because commercial endeavours are constrained by profitability motivations. The best American ideas came from individuals from minority groups considered to be naive and unpopular at the time. Naive and unpopular does not have market value, but it is just these divergences that bring the greatest benefit to a nation. Commercial competition as the final acid test for determining access to the airwaves only guarantees that a few owners can have a chance to make money, not the long term strength of our nation.

The United States has more money to survive than any other nation, what we need now is ideas to bring our country into the new millennium as peaceful leaders. Tapping into Americas diversity has always supply us with the answers to a successful future.

Americas wealth of diversity lives in communities, not in chain or network-owned properties. The FCC should consider in specific language within its new rules that each regional market have the greatest possible level of diverse ownership. Local ownership has the best grasp in which local communities wish to involve themselves.

Today's media is dominated by television. The television provides the public with a endless stream of reruns, sitcoms, corporate media announcing advertisement packets as news stories, nature shows sponsored by petroleum companies, soft pornography, and sporting events. This is what commercial competition has to offer, a large choice of mind-numbing programming. The corporate news outlets droan on about murders and weather reports choosing to read items from a facsimily machine rather than doing some investigative reporting. The later would require spending profit margins on unnecessary reporter-employees in an attempt to maintain competitiveness. Although, there is excellent reporting on financial and sport matters.

The other new plethora of news sources to be had comes from the internet which is quite exclusive to persons unable to access the technology. These internet news outlets are ever increasingly owned by the same corporations which already own the local television outlets, and just like these corporate news services, have no connection to community.

It is quite recognizable that large corporate owned news and broadcast media firms with strong central control over budgets and content decide to make the least expensive choices. These choices stiffel inovation and progress. We can not afford to continue to expand homogenization in America. It is our diversity which has made America strong! Diversity in ethnicity, religion, and political thought, not the number of entertainment venues.